



DEFIANT

8

MARCH

\$2.75

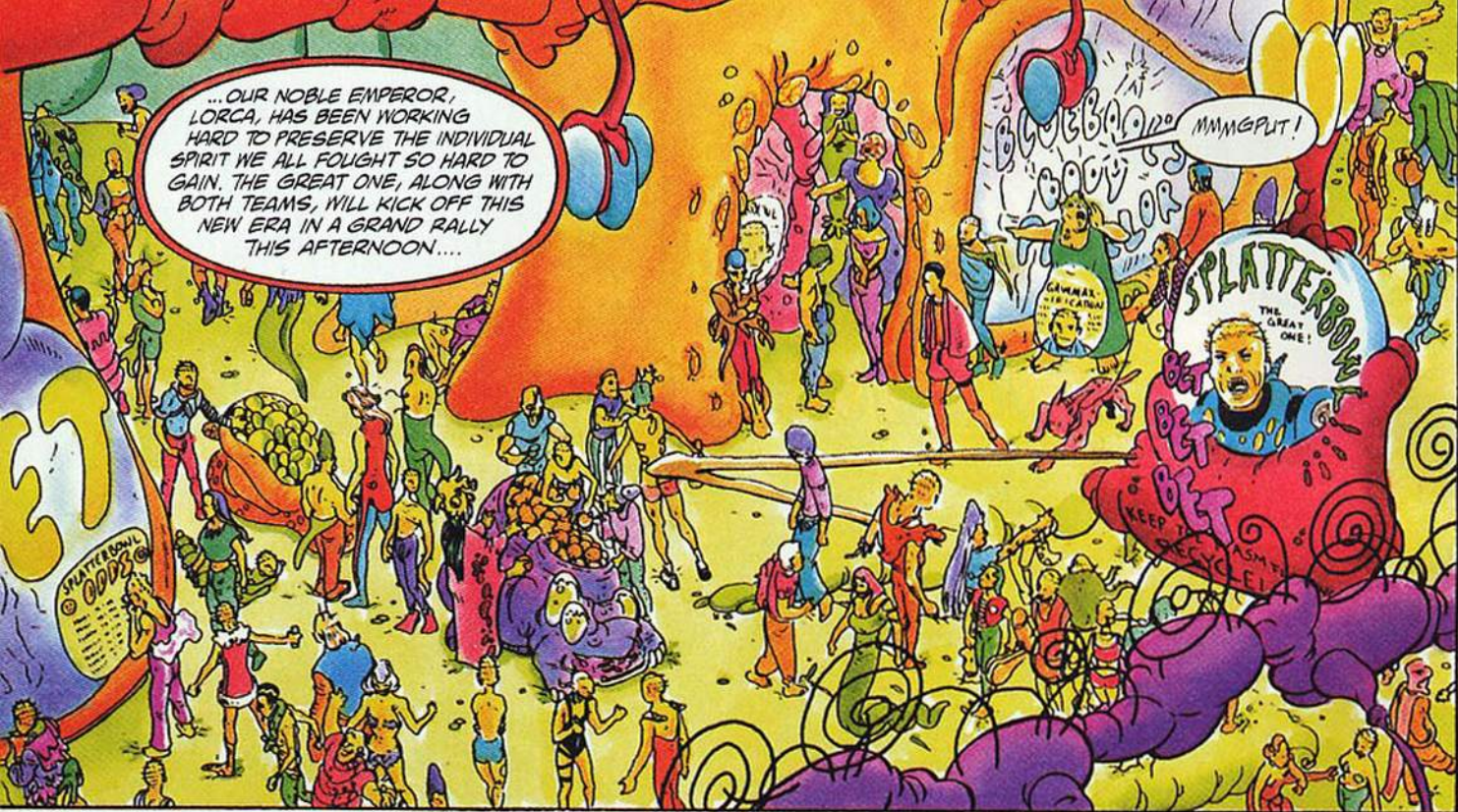
\$3.65 CANADA

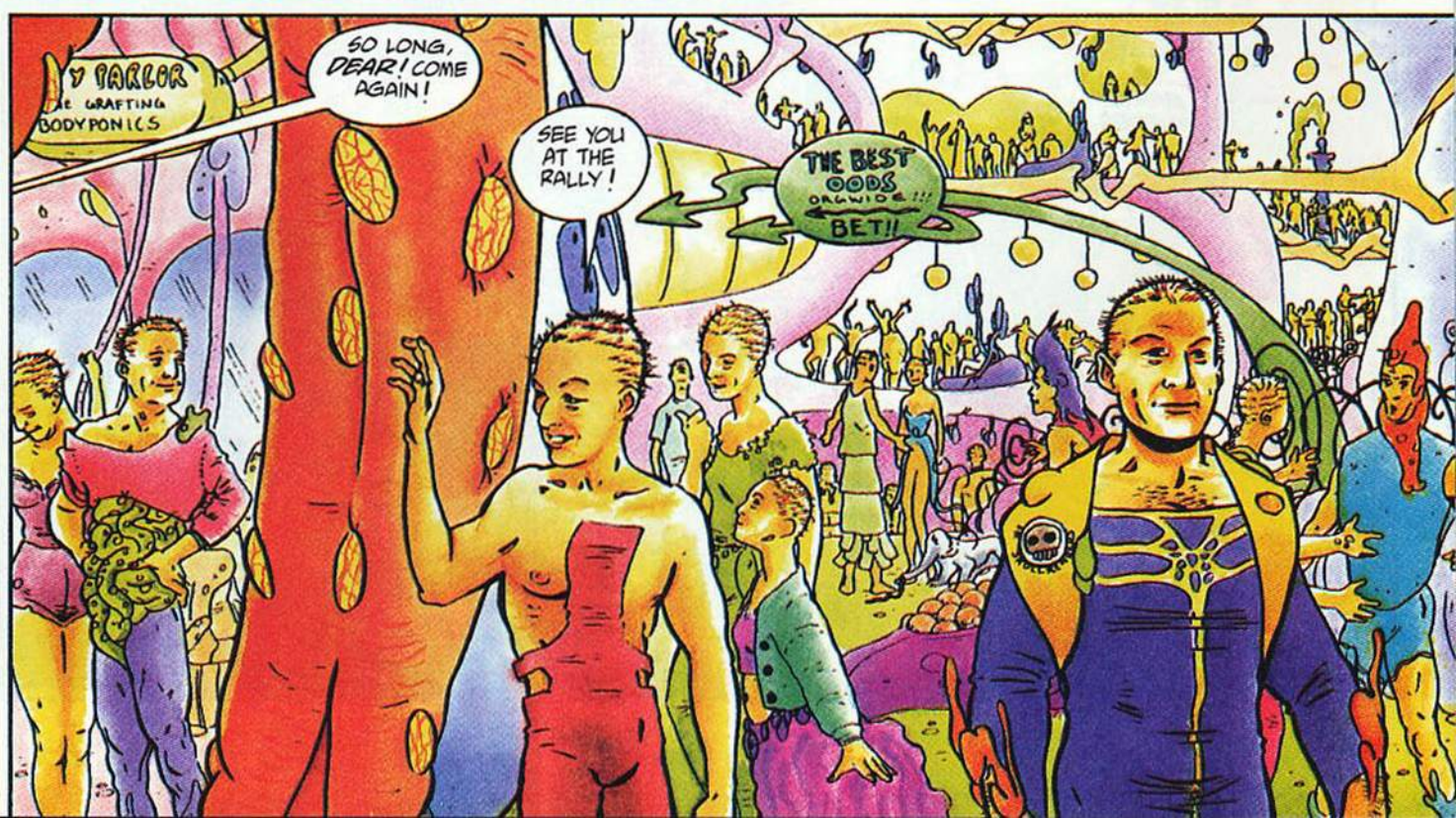
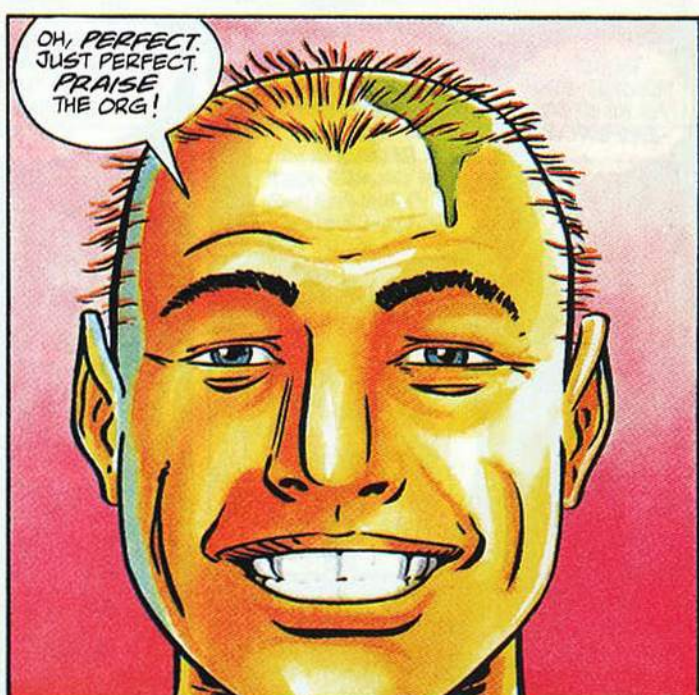
SPECIAL
40 PAGE
ISSUE!

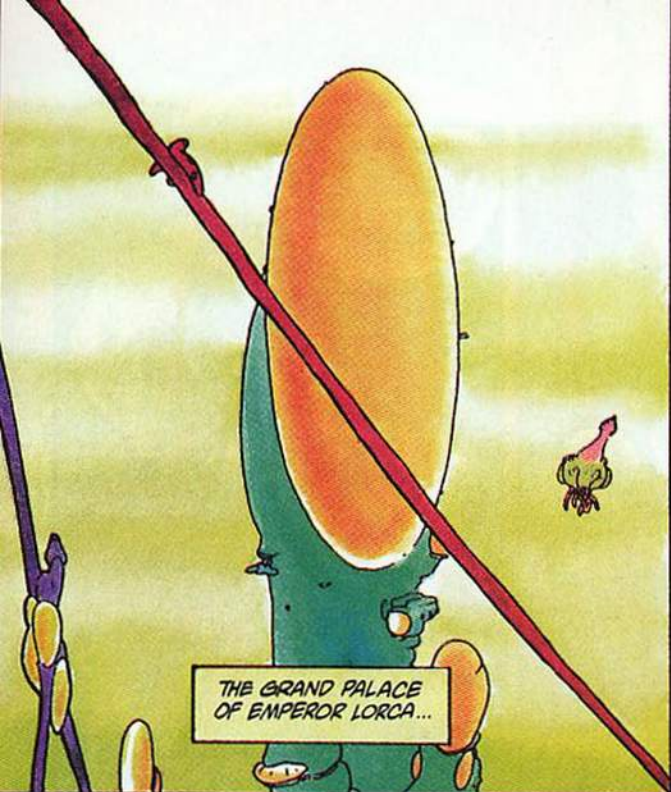
WARRIORS OF PLASM



LeGham
1994



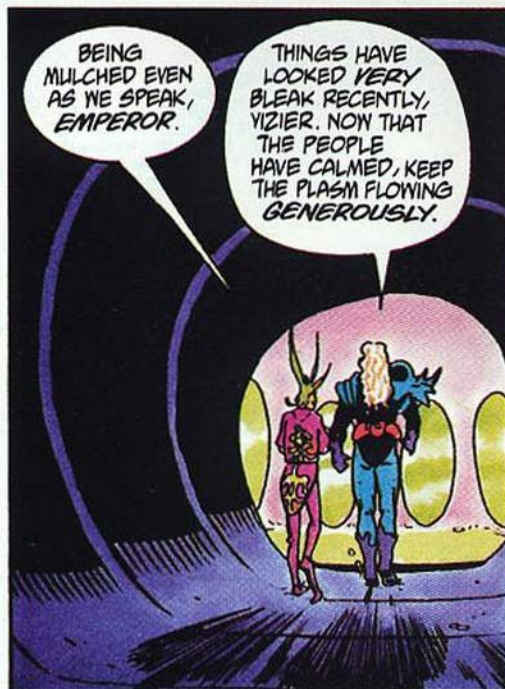




THE GRAND PALACE
OF EMPEROR LORCA...

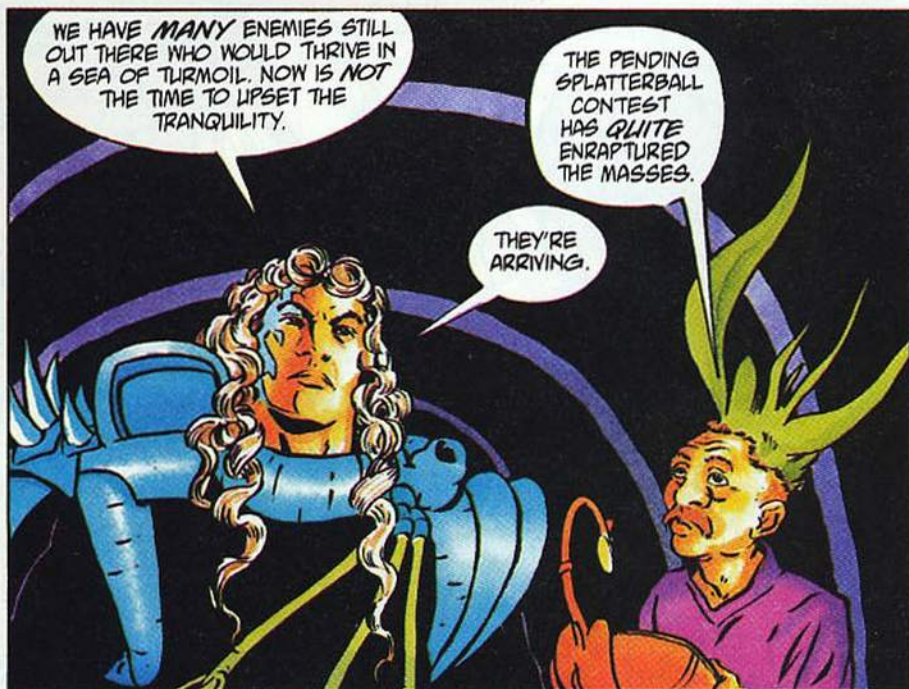
...OVER A TRILLION MEGAVATS OF NEW RESOURCES. OF COURSE, A LARGE PORTION OF THAT WAS TAKEN BY THE ORG TO HEAL ITS RATHER SUBSTANTIAL WOUNDS, BUT THAT STILL LEAVES ENOUGH PLASM TO KEEP THE SYSTEM GOING FOR A LONG, LONG TIME.

HAVE ALL THE PRISONERS BEEN PROCESSED?



BEING MULCHED EVEN AS WE SPEAK, EMPEROR.

THINGS HAVE LOOKED VERY BLEAK RECENTLY, VIZIER. NOW THAT THE PEOPLE HAVE CALMED, KEEP THE PLASM FLOWING GENEROUSLY.



WE HAVE *MANY* ENEMIES STILL OUT THERE WHO WOULD THRIVE IN A SEA OF TURMOIL. NOW IS *NOT* THE TIME TO UPSET THE TRANQUILITY.

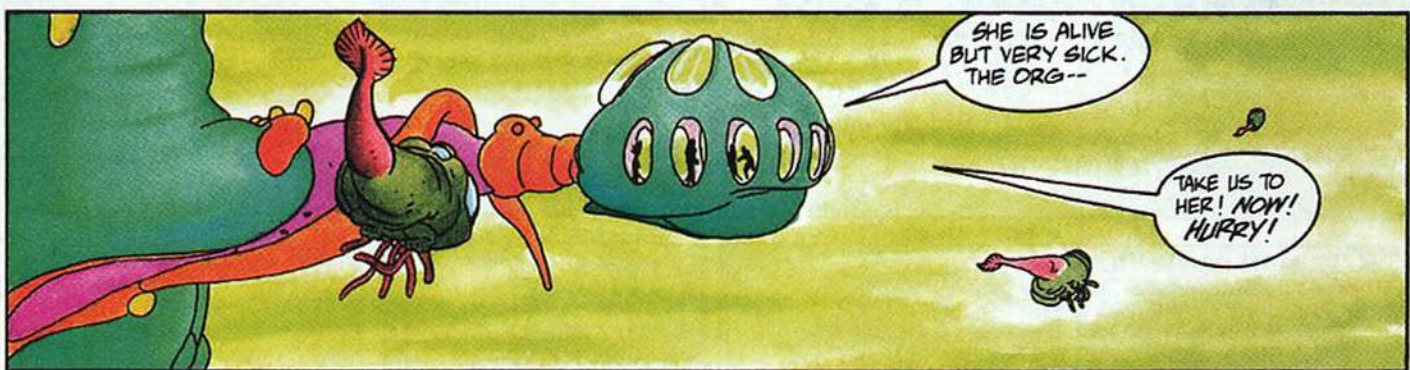
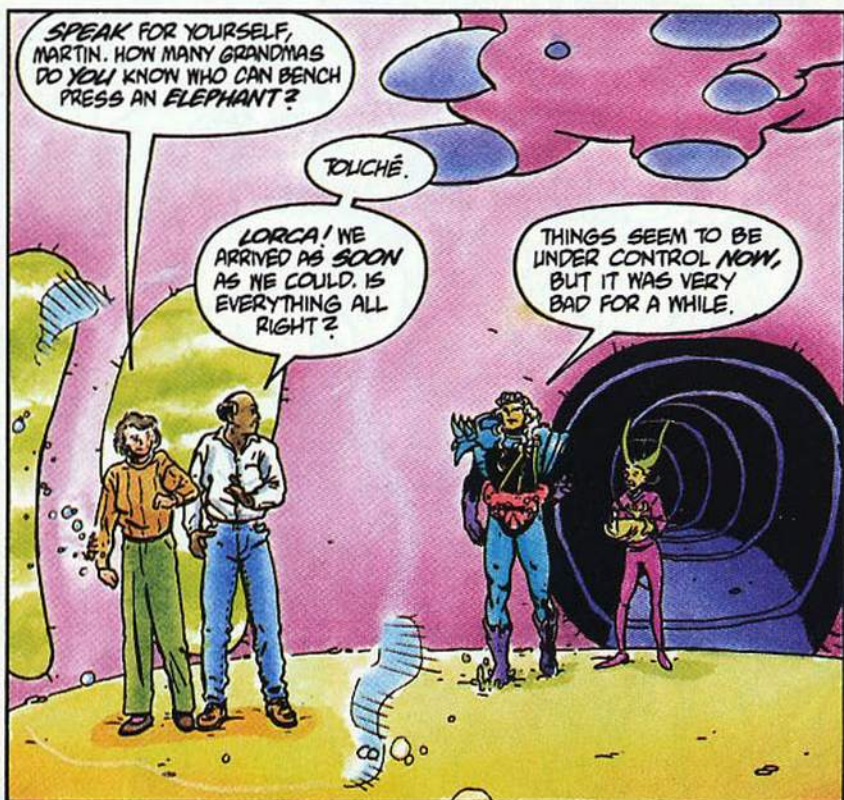
THE PENDING SPLATTERBALL CONTEST HAS *QUITE* ENRAPPED THE MASSES.

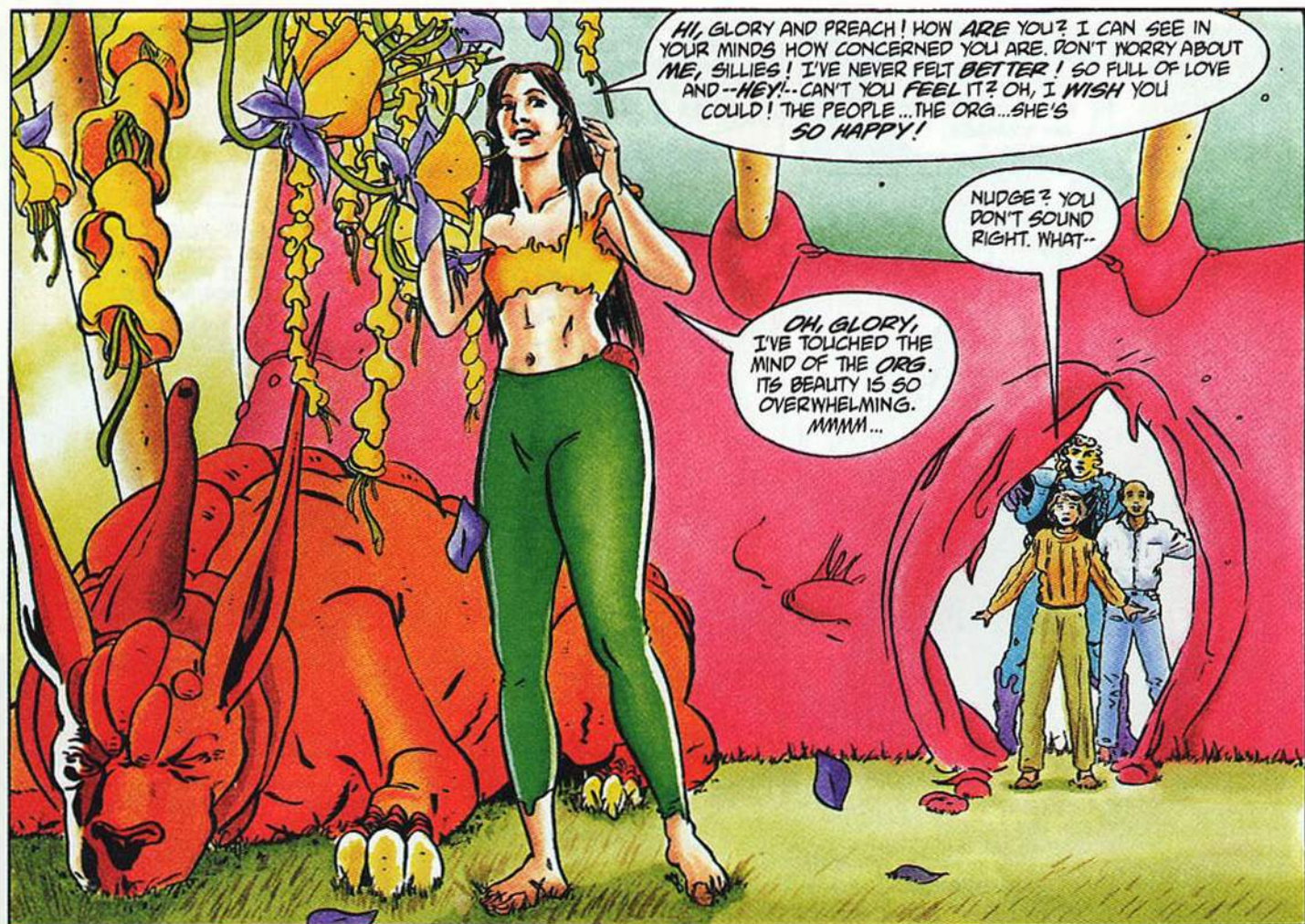
THEY'RE ARRIVING.



THE EARTH HEROES...

KEEP SILENT, VIZIER. THIS MAY NOT GO WELL.





HI, GLORY AND PREACH! HOW ARE YOU? I CAN SEE IN YOUR MINDS HOW CONCERNED YOU ARE. DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, SILLIES! I'VE NEVER FELT BETTER! SO FULL OF LOVE AND--HEY!--CAN'T YOU FEEL IT? OH, I WISH YOU COULD! THE PEOPLE...THE ORG...SHE'S SO HAPPY!

NUDGE? YOU DON'T SOUND RIGHT. WHAT--

OH, GLORY, I'VE TOUCHED THE MIND OF THE ORG. ITS BEAUTY IS SO OVERWHELMING. MMMM...



HURRY! THE SPLATTERBALL RALLY IS STARTING!

WHY ARE YOU SO NERVOUS, LORCA?

GLORY WILL UNDERSTAND. GLORY ALWAYS UNDERSTANDS!

IT'S WHAT THE PEOPLE WANT!

WHAT'S ALL THIS? WHAT HAVE YOU DONE, LORCA?



HE HASN'T DONE ANYTHING WRONG. SPLATTERBALL MAKES THE PEOPLE SOOO HAPPY! THE ORG LOVES US... WE'RE ALL A PART OF HER. IT MAKES EVERYTHING MUCH EASIER WHEN YOU BELIEVE. EVERYONE BELIEVES.

OH...EXCEPT THAT POOR GRIMMAX FELLOW. HE'S VERY IMPORTANT! SO I'VE BEEN HELPING HIM. COME WATCH THE RALLY...

...AND I'LL HELP YOU, TOO.



SWEETIE, NO! WHAT'S COME OVER YOU? YOU CAN'T DO THIS.

BUT THE VOICES. I CAN HEAR EVERYONE! IT FEELS SO GOOD WHEN THEY'RE SO HAPPY. WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT?

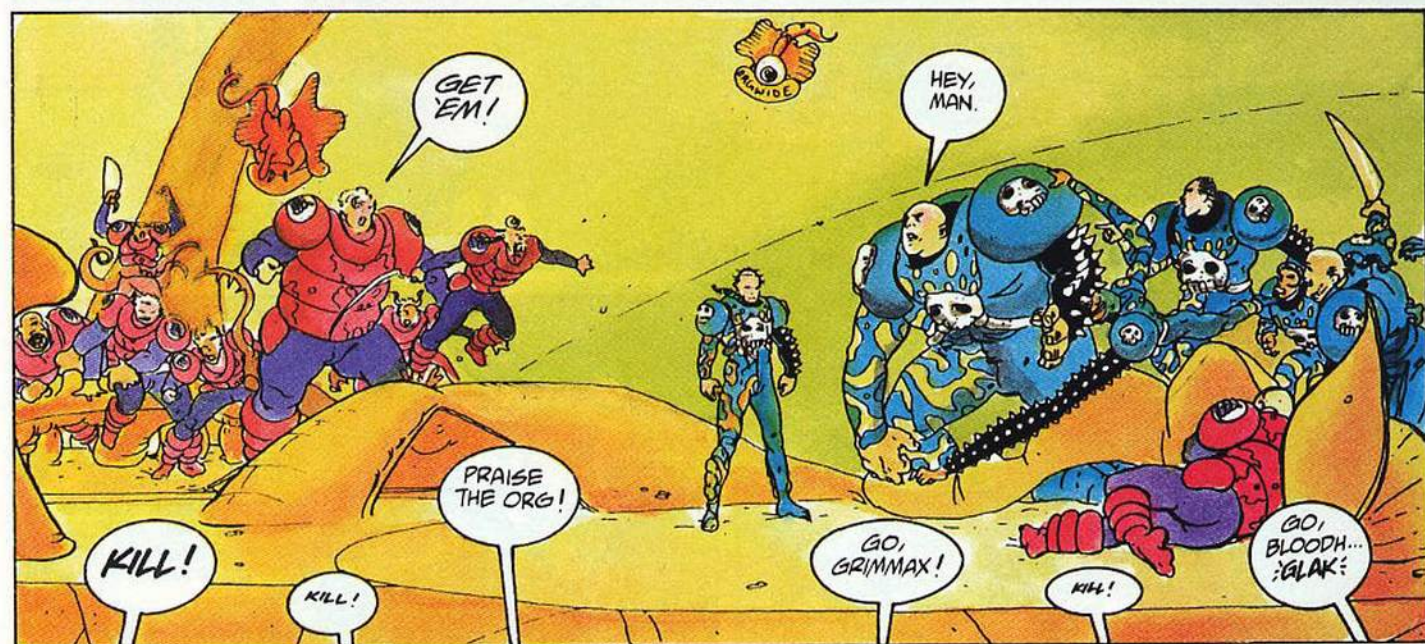
THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT.

SHHHH... NO, HONEY. COME HERE...

SKULLRENDERS VS. BLOODHONEY'S
THE GREAT SPLATTERBOWL RALLY
REVOLUTIONARY MEMORIAL LYCEUM

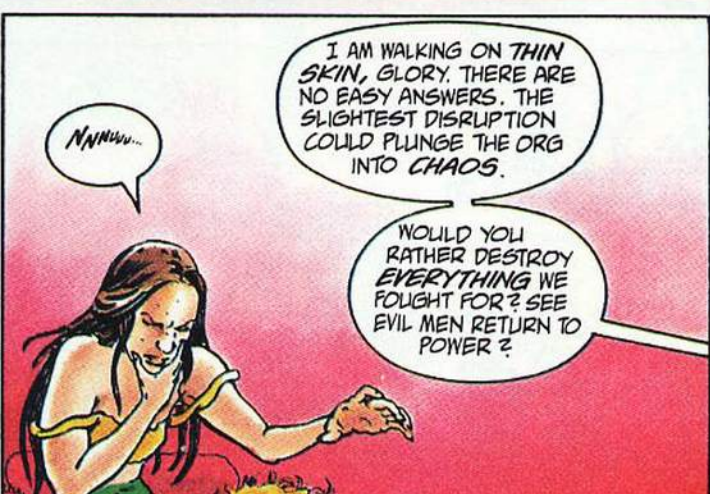
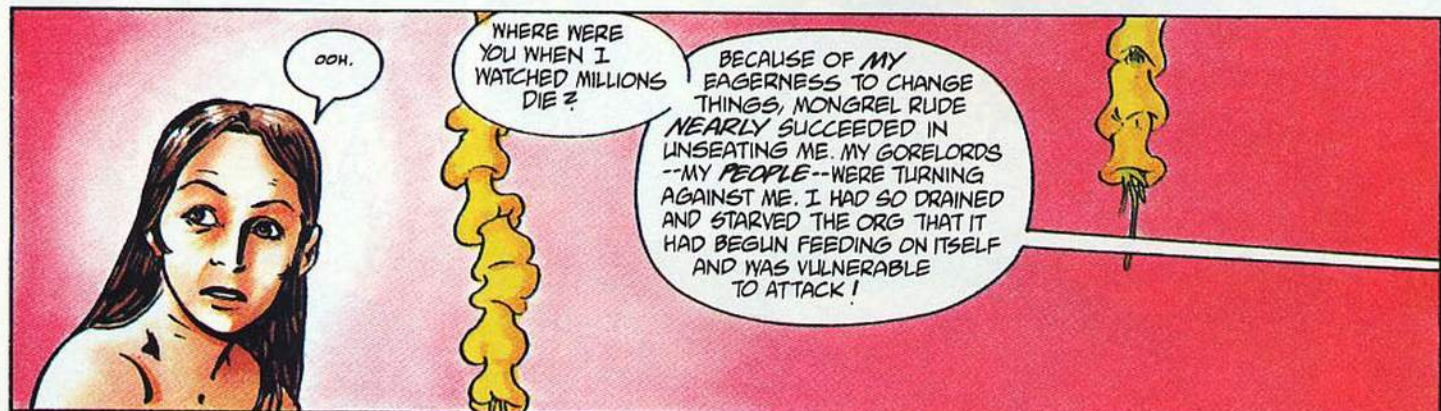


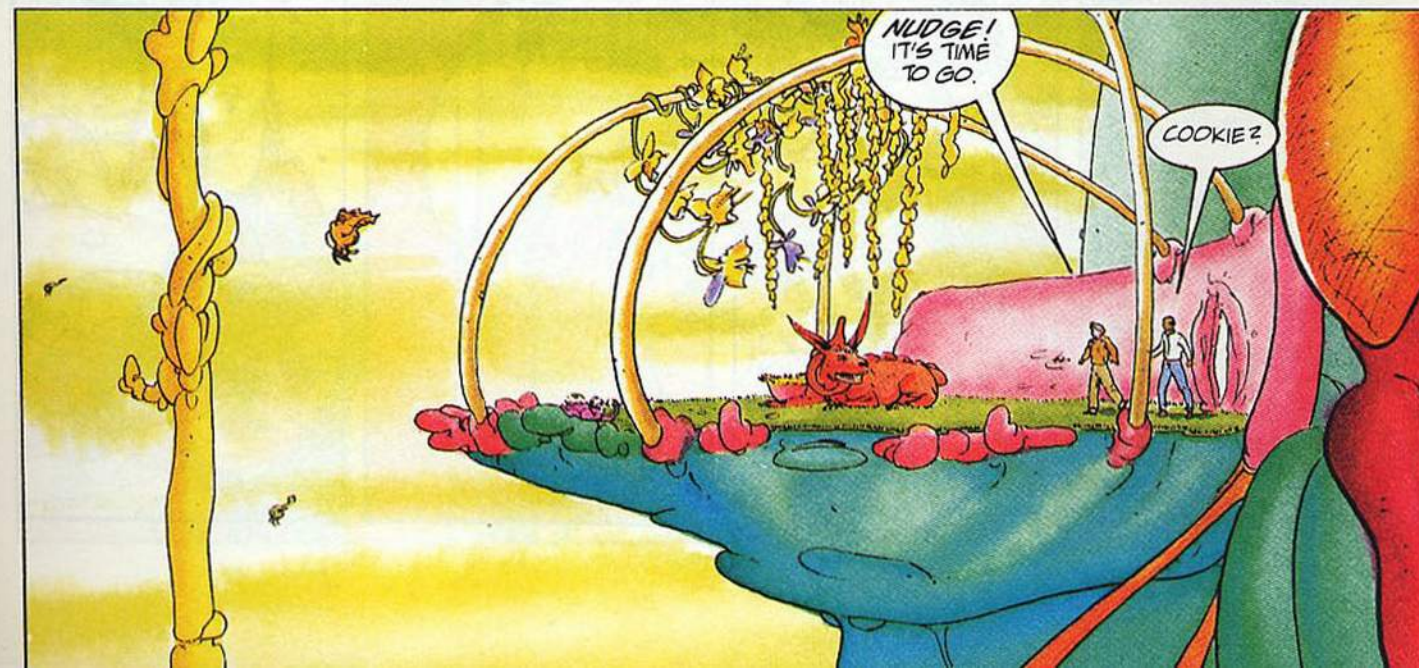
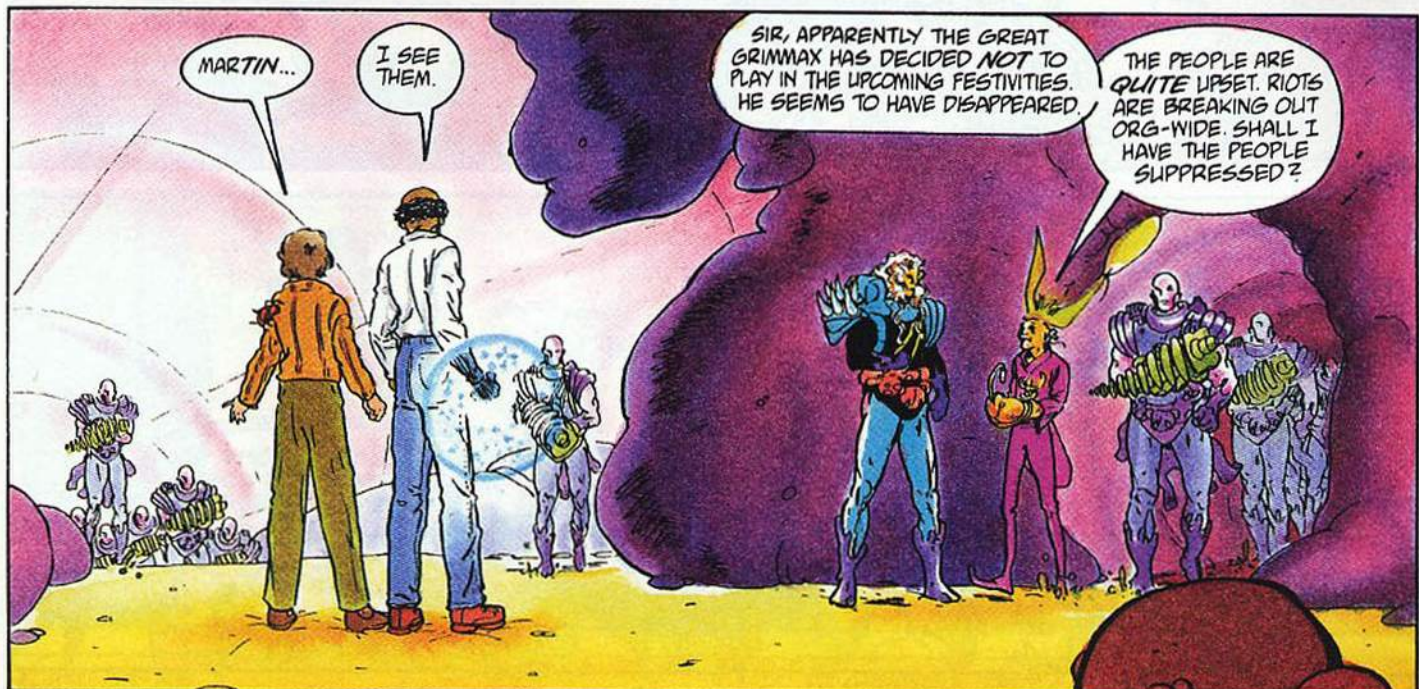




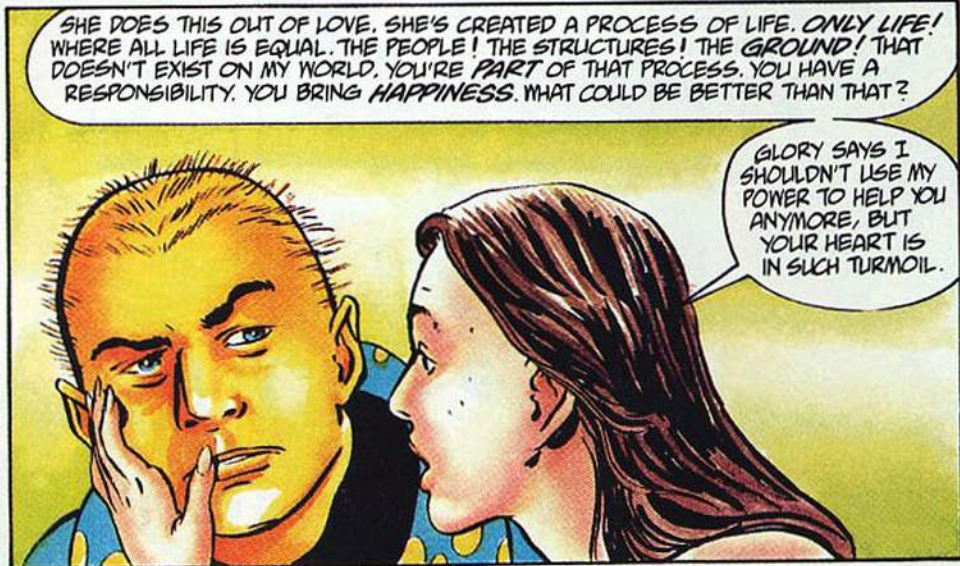
MEANWHILE, BACK AT
THE GRAND PALACE
OF EMPEROR LORCA...

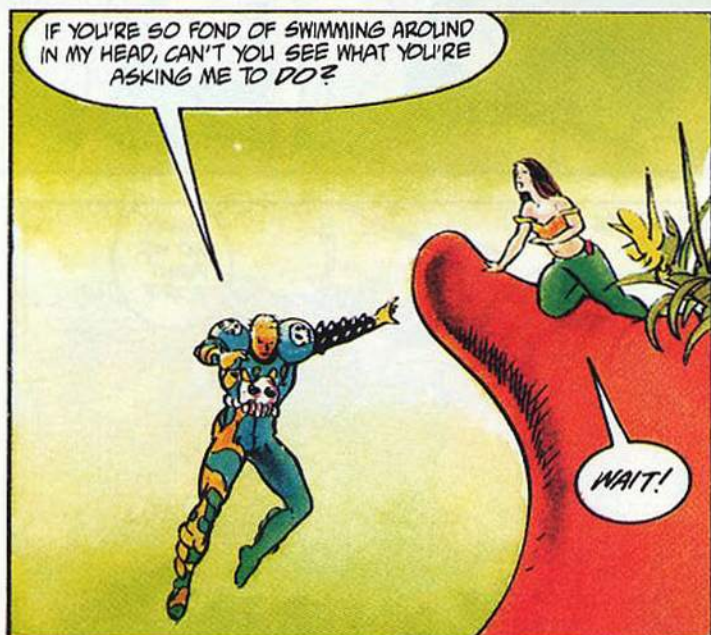
LORCA!
I WANT A
FEW WORDS
WITH YOU!

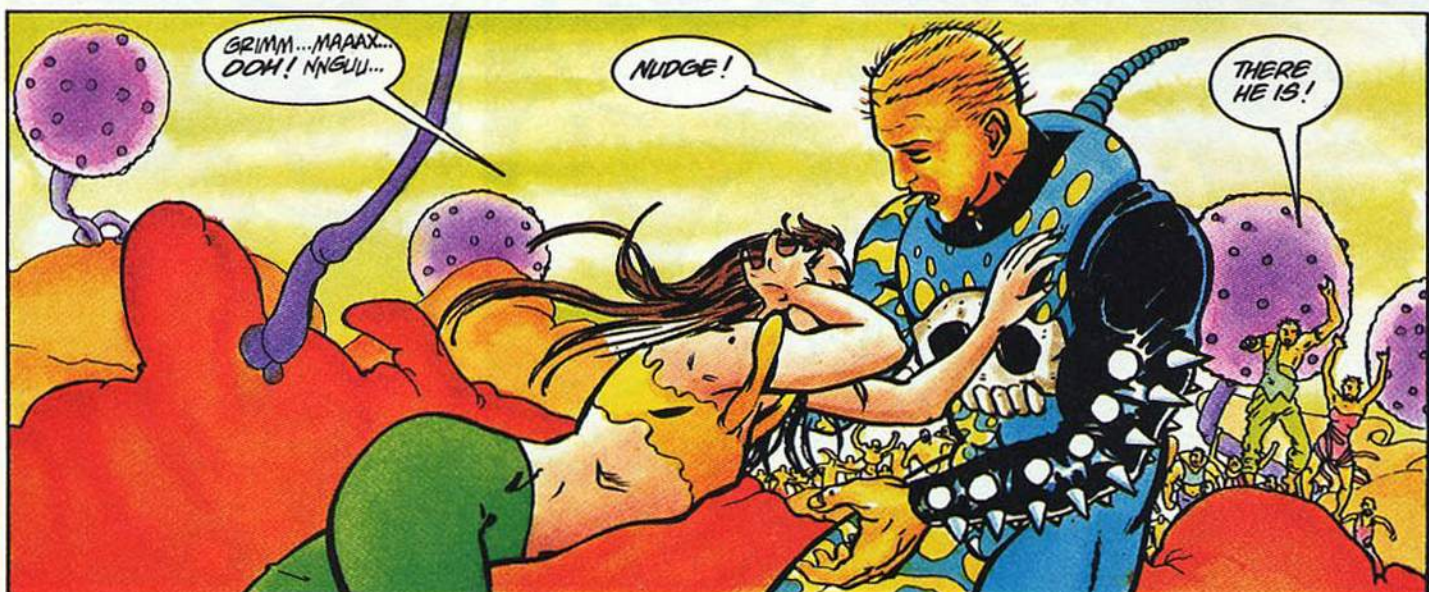
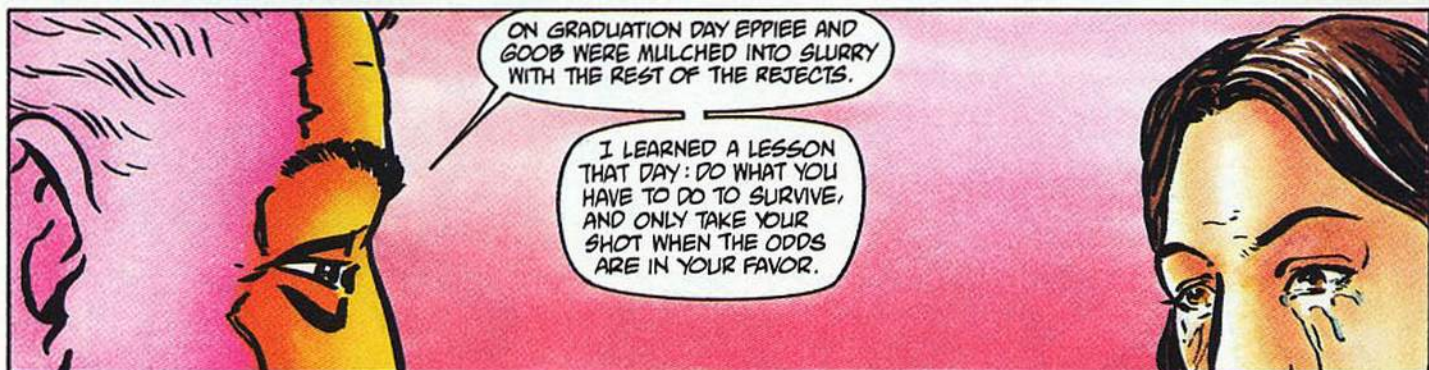
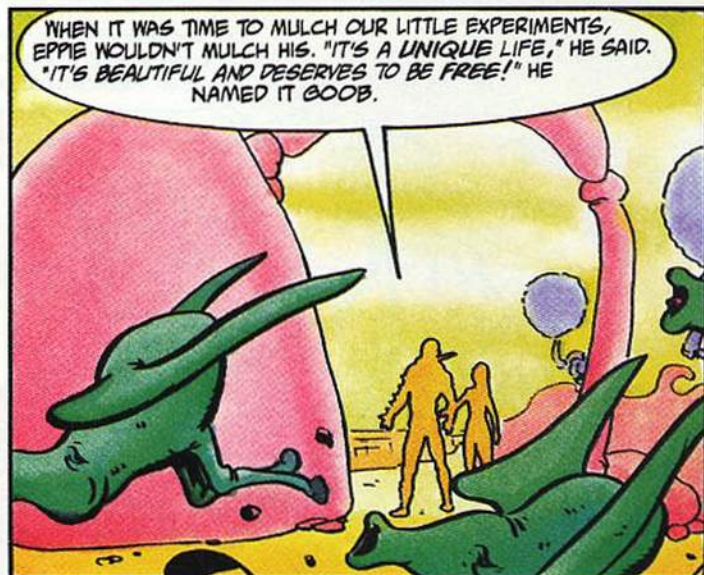
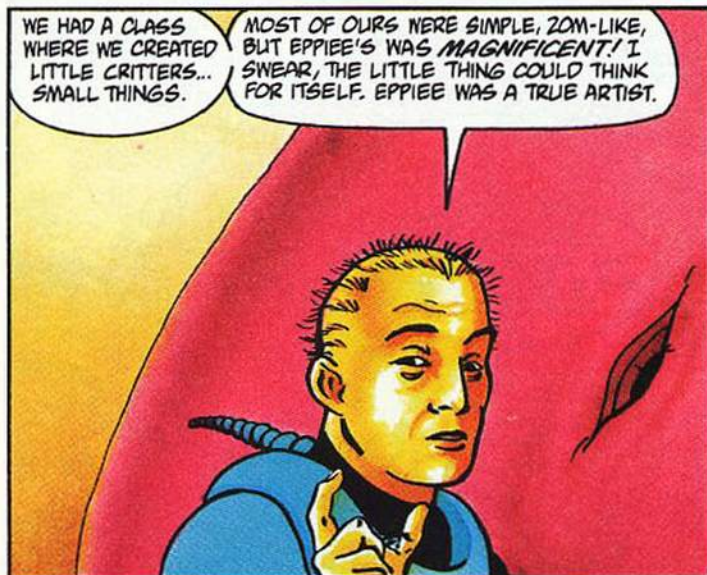


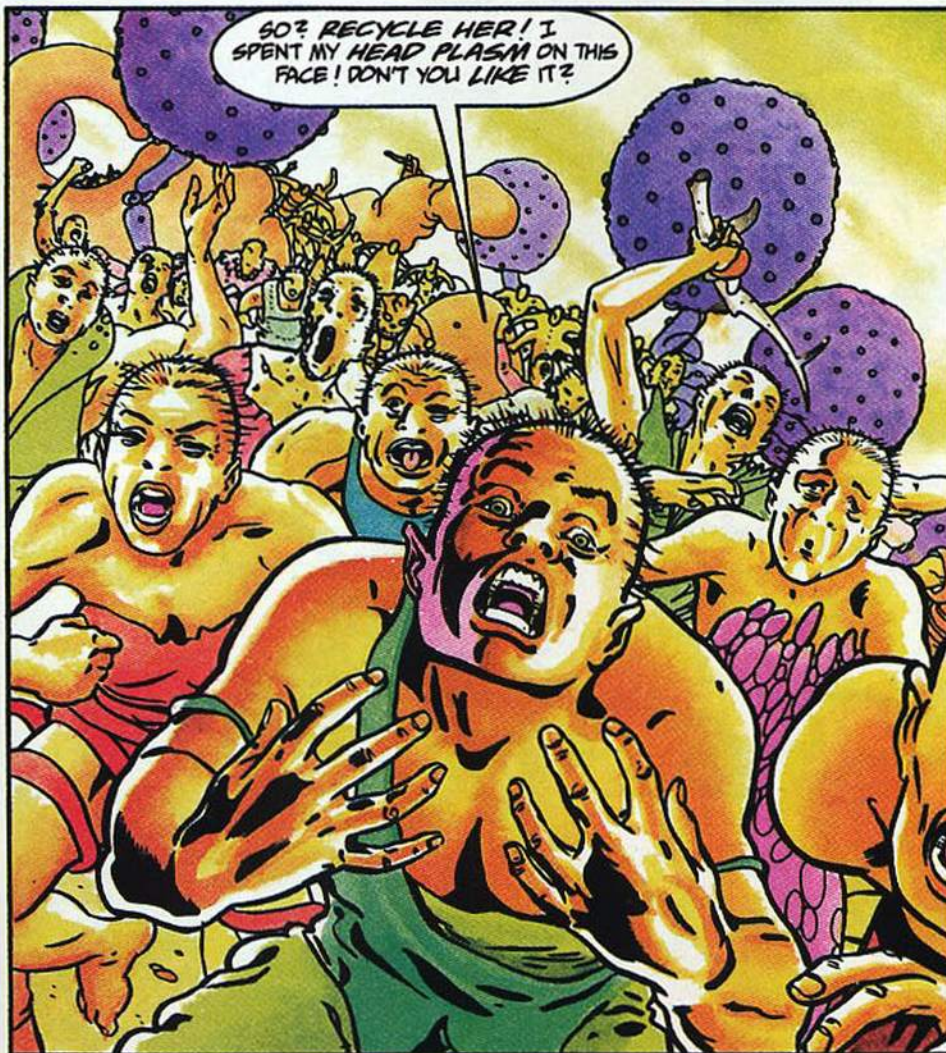


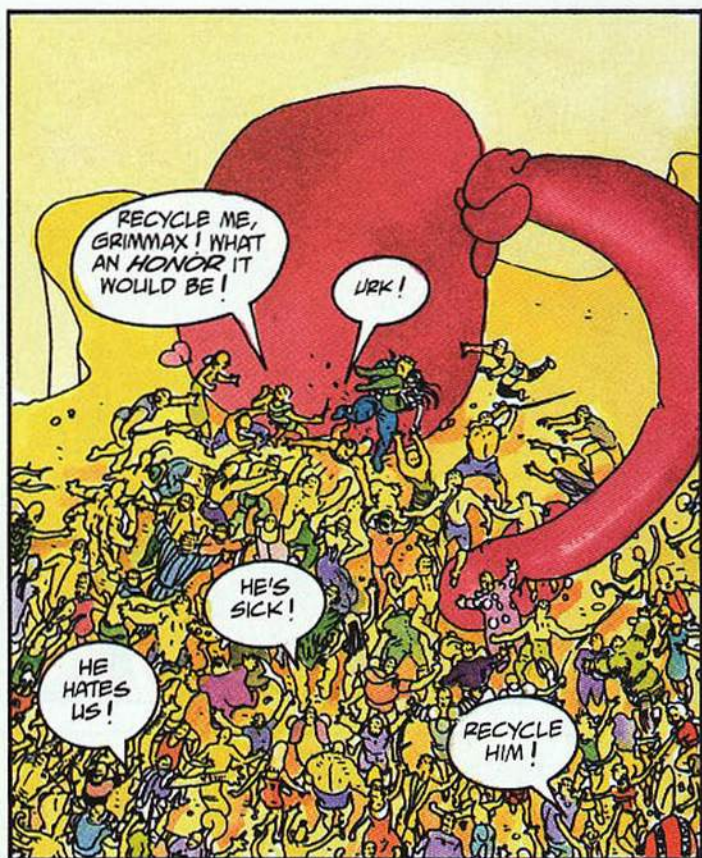


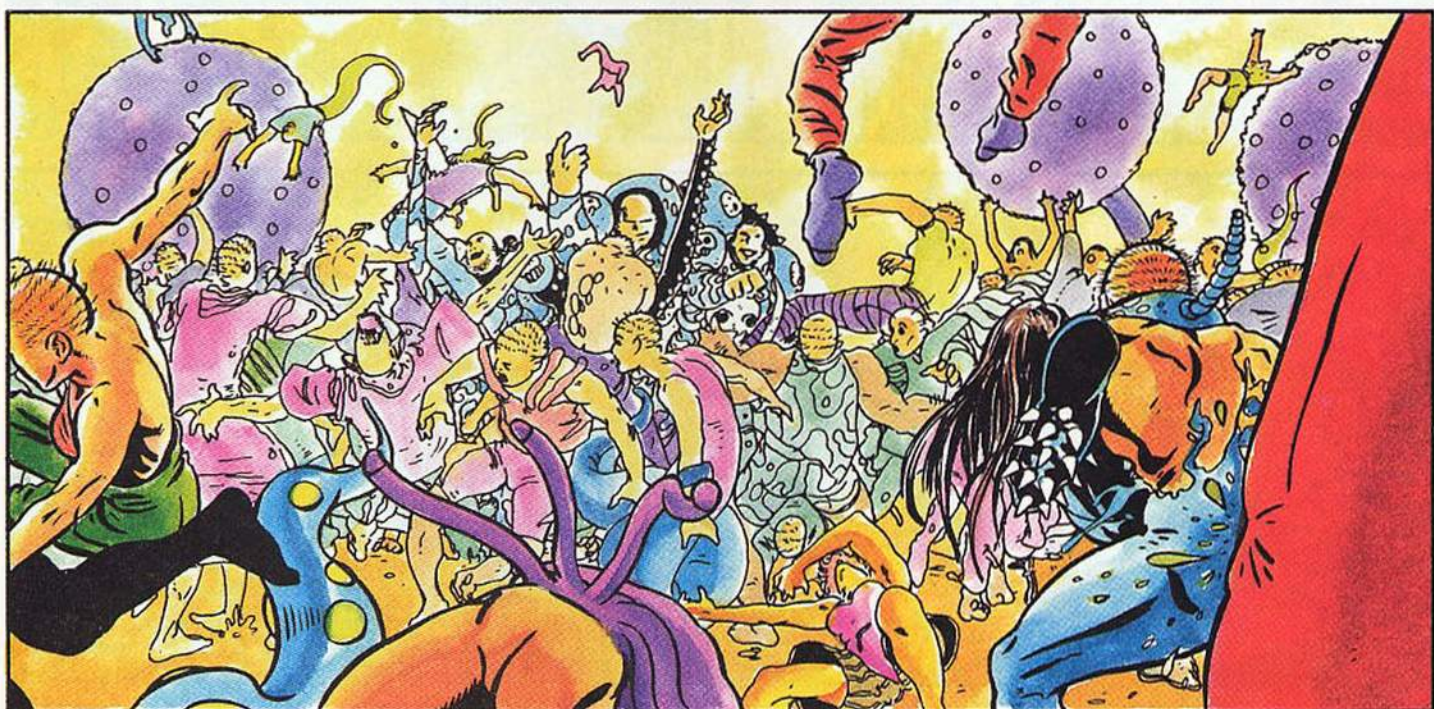
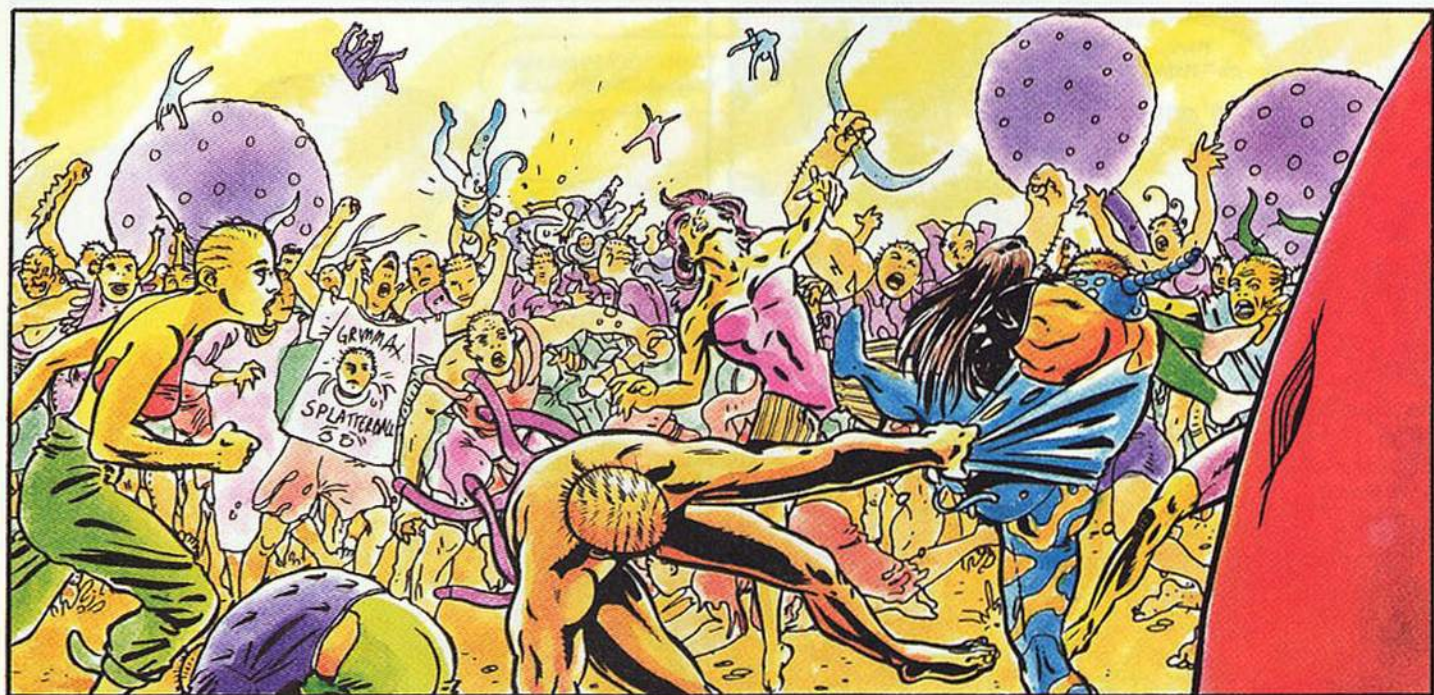












THE HIDDEN BURROW OF THE MONGRELS...

IT'S GORELORD
SUEFACEEN! WE'VE
BEEN FOUND OUT!

WHAT
NOW,
RUDE?

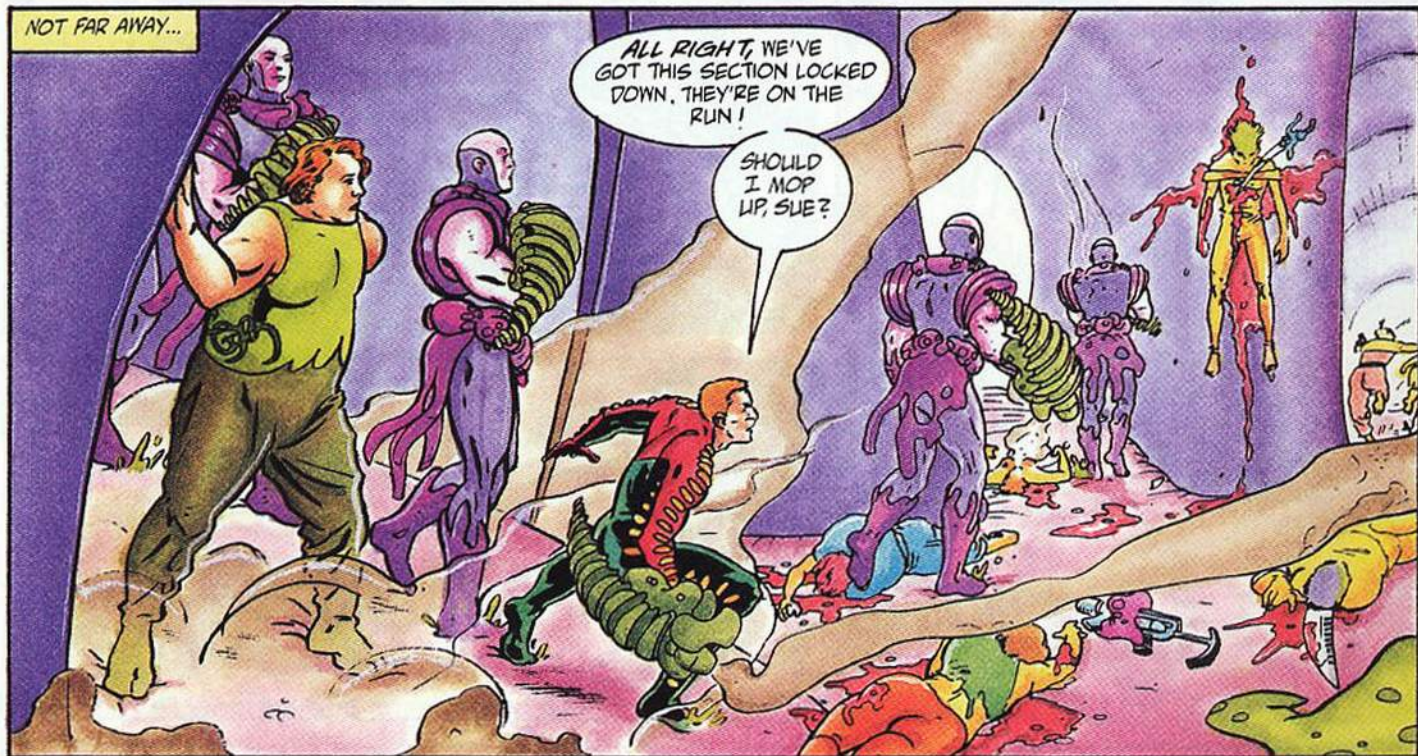
SCATTER! DON'T
LET THEM TAKE YOU
ALIVE! BETTER TO
RETURN TO THE ORG
AND WAIT TO LIVE
ANOTHER DAY!



NOT FAR AWAY...

ALL RIGHT, WE'VE
GOT THIS SECTION LOCKED
DOWN. THEY'RE ON THE
RUN!

SHOULD
I MOP
UP, SUE?

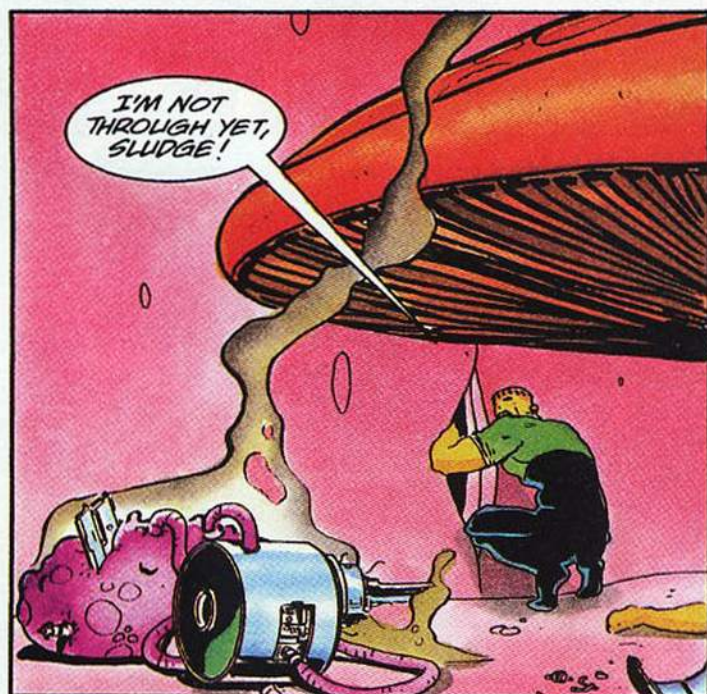
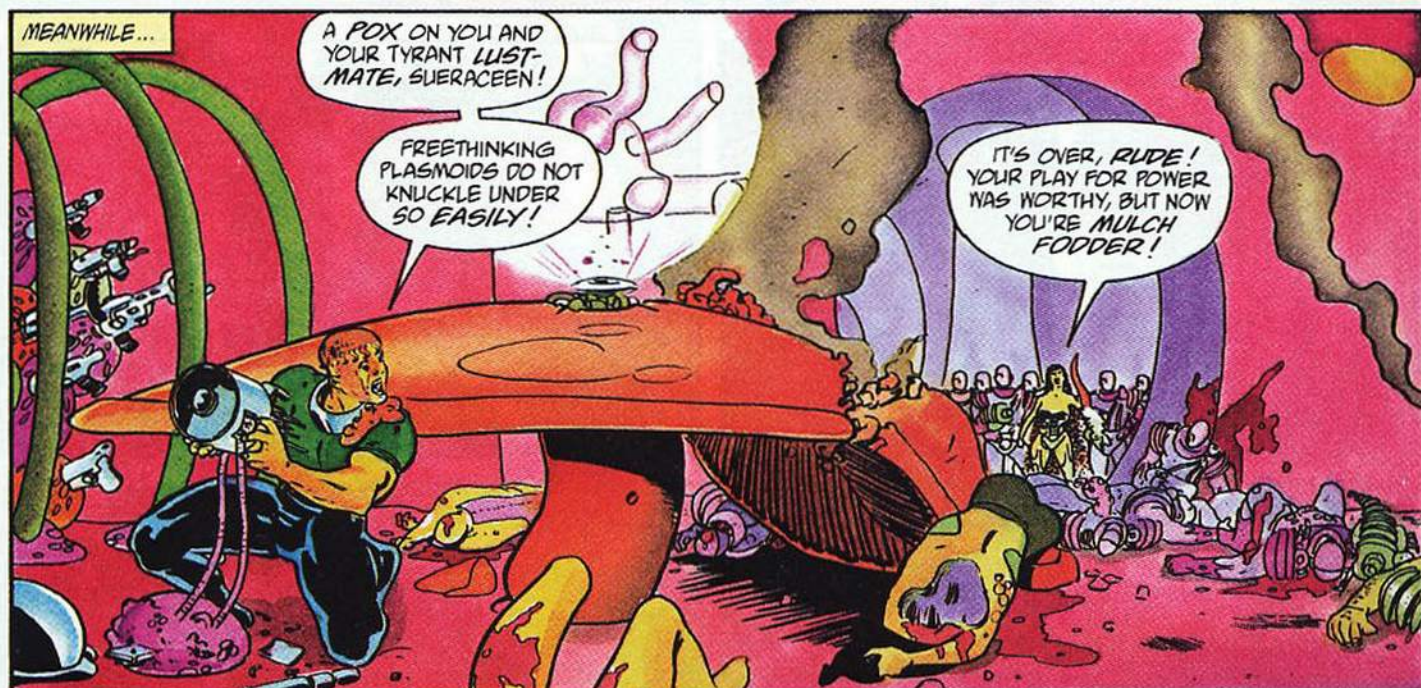
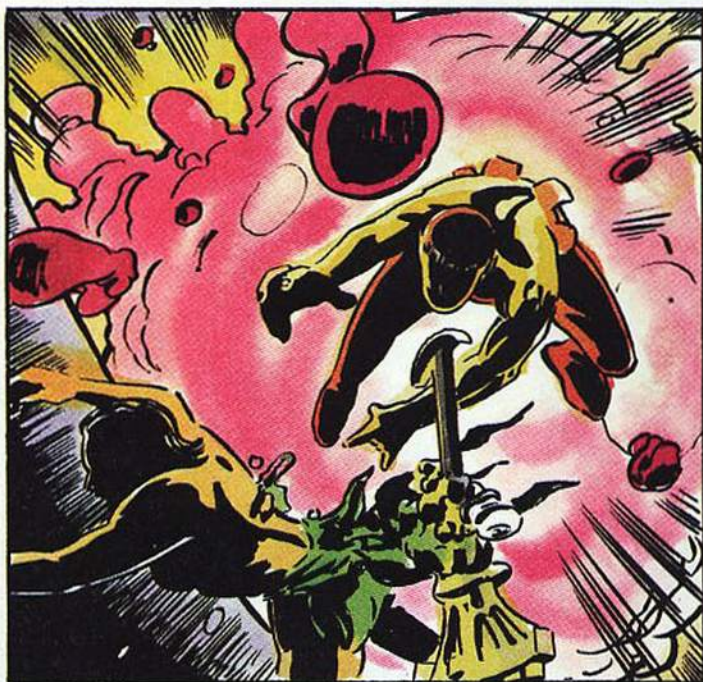


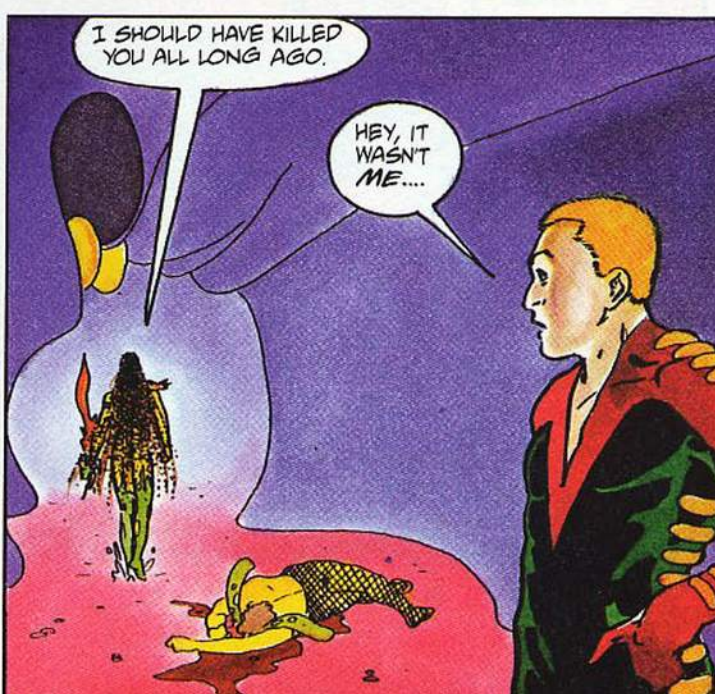
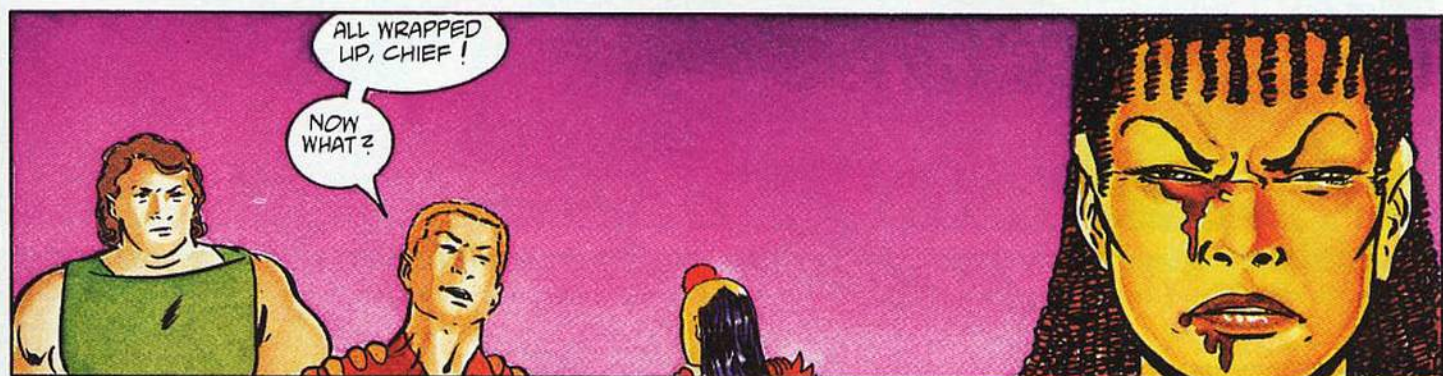
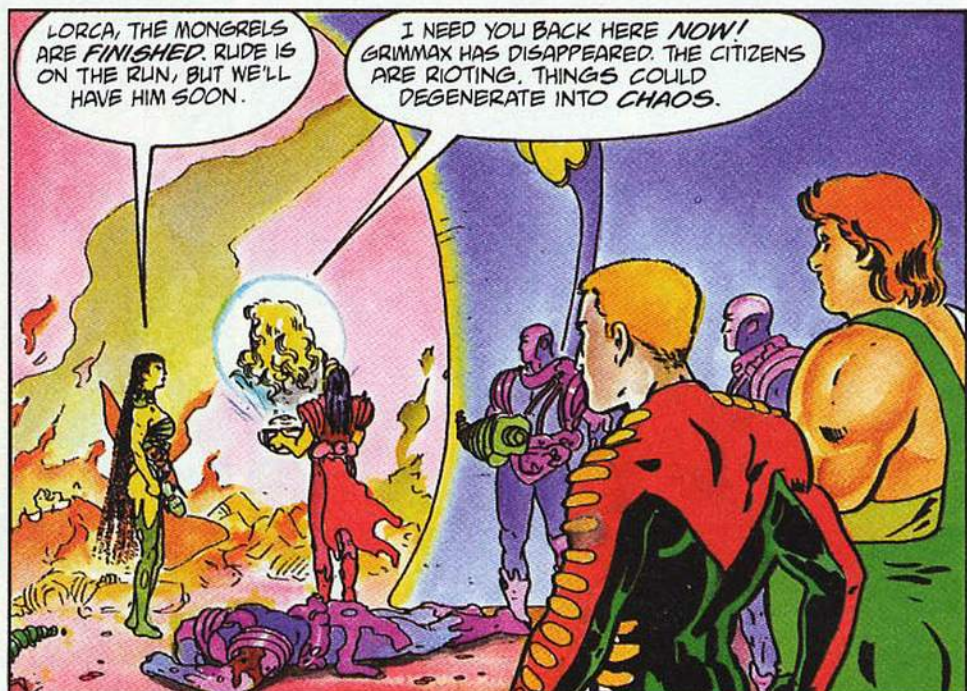
DO WHAT YOU WANT, SHOOTER.
I LEAVE A SQUADRON OF GRIND-
ZOMS AT YOUR DISPOSAL.

LEAVE RUDE FOR ME!
I'VE WAITED A LONG
TIME FOR THIS.









THE SLOSH CLUB...

HEY!!

UNGH...

DRINK.

HEY...
NICE...OL'
BUDDY.

I'M SORRY... AHH... I'LL HELP...
JUST STOP... STOP THE VOICES...

DON'T
WORRY, I'LL
BE ALL
RIGHT....

YOU CAN'T ABANDON US!
WE'RE A TEAM! YOU'RE
OUR... MIC! HEAD BUDDY!

DON'T CLIT OFF OUR
HEAD! SNIFF!

DON'T... DON'T YA WANNA
WIN... CHAMPIONSSHHHIP?

THINK FOR YOURSELF. I'M
SICK OF TEAMS. THIS ENTIRE
ORG IS ONE SICK TEAM.

NO.

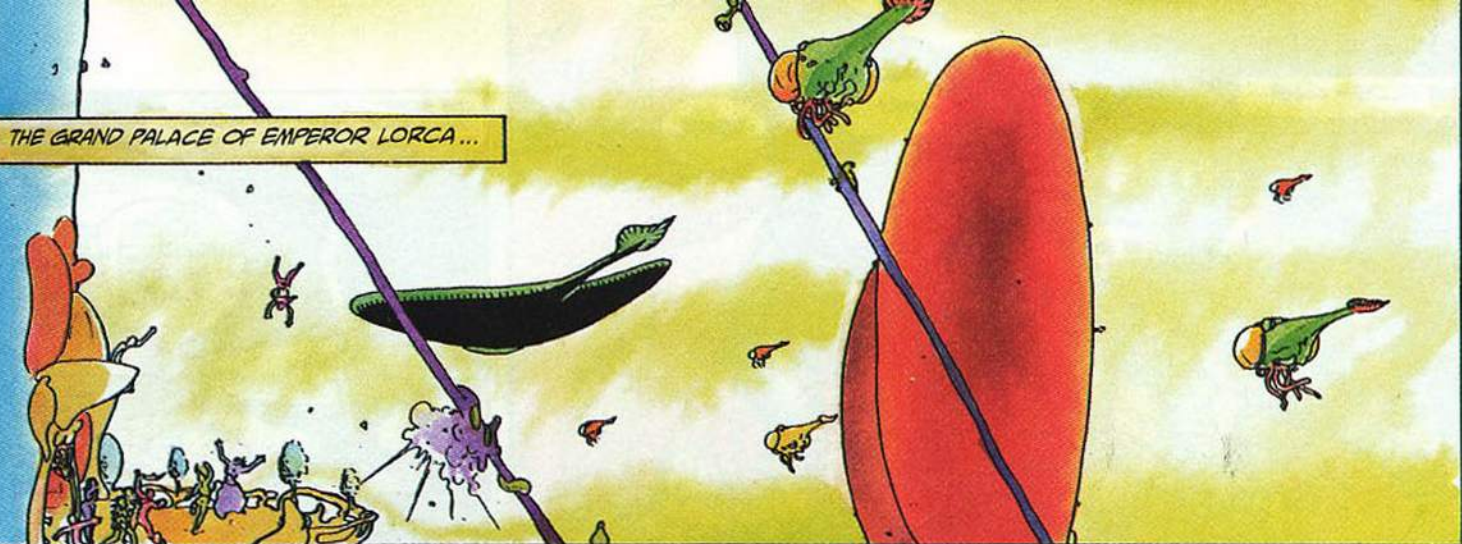
POOR HEAD...
BRUIP!

I DON'T
HAVE TIME
FOR THIS.

GRIMMAX!

THE EMPEROR
WOULD LIKE A
WORD WITH YOU.

THE GRAND PALACE OF EMPEROR LORCA...



SHE NEEDS TO GET OFF THE ORG. THIS PLACE IS KILLING HER.

THANK YOU, I'VE GOT HER.

WHAT ABOUT YOU, SON?



I CAN TAKE CARE OF MYSELF.

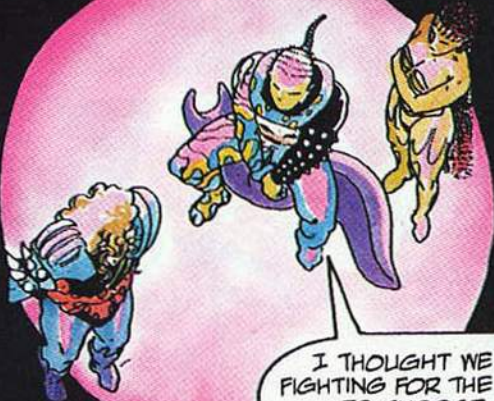


SOON...

YOU'VE MADE LIFE VERY DIFFICULT FOR ME, GRIMMAX. I'M TRYING TO BUILD A NEW ORG, BUT THE SITUATION IS STILL VERY TENUOUS.

MOST OF MY TIME SEEMS TO BE SPENT JUST HOLDING ONTO THE THRONE.

I UNDERSTAND YOUR CONCERNS, BUT WHAT YOU'RE DOING COULD DESTROY EVERYTHING WE FOUGHT FOR SO LONG AND HARD.



I THOUGHT WE WERE FIGHTING FOR THE FREEDOM TO CHOOSE OUR OWN PATH.

QUIET, WORM! YOU'LL PLAY, OR I'LL RIP YOUR HIDE FROM--

SUE, PLEASE.

LET ME SHOW YOU SOMETHING.





I SHOW YOU THIS SO YOU WILL TRUST ME, SO YOU'LL KNOW WHERE I COME FROM --AND WHAT HAS *DRIVEN* ME TOWARD CHANGE.



HELLO, GRIMMAX.



LAYGEN?

I...KNOW HER, BUT I THOUGHT...



YES. SHE WAS *MURDERED* RIGHT BEFORE MY EYES.



LAYGEN AND I WERE LOVERS.



THROUGH HER I LEARNED THE VALUE OF LIFE. THAT EVERY ONE IS *UNIQUE*.



YOU... MAKE THESE *MOCKERIES* OF HER?



I MAKE CLONES...TO *HONOR* HER MEMORY.



WE WERE MONADISTS...BACK BEFORE THE REVOLUTION. SHE WAS STILL A STUDENT.

SHE TAUGHT ME TO BELIEVE IN THE VALUE OF THE *SELF*...OF MYSELF.



YOU MUST TEACH OTHERS.



WE ARE VERY *ALIKE*, YOU AND I. YOU MUST BELIEVE IN ME. IF YOU DON'T, MILLIONS WILL DIE.

OTHERS COULD TAKE POWER. MONGREL RUDE...OR WORSE. DON'T QUIT ON ME NOW--NOT WHEN WE'RE SO CLOSE.





...THE GAME WILL BE VERY EXCITING ANYWAY! IN OTHER NEWS, EMPEROR LORCA HAS PROMISED A FLASK OF PLASM TO ALL CITIZENS WHO DISPLAY CALM BEHAVIOR....

GRIMMAX STILL HASN'T DECIDED TO PLAY?

NO WORD YET, RUDE. BUT *WHAT* DOES IT MATTER? WE'RE ALL THAT'S LEFT.

I'VE NEVER HAD TROUBLE GAINING SUPPORT. *ESPECIALLY* IN SUCH A CHAOTIC CLIMATE.

IF MY OLD PAL GRIMMAX STAYS AWAY, THE PEOPLE WILL BE *SCREAMING* FOR ANSWERS...WHICH I CAN PROVIDE.

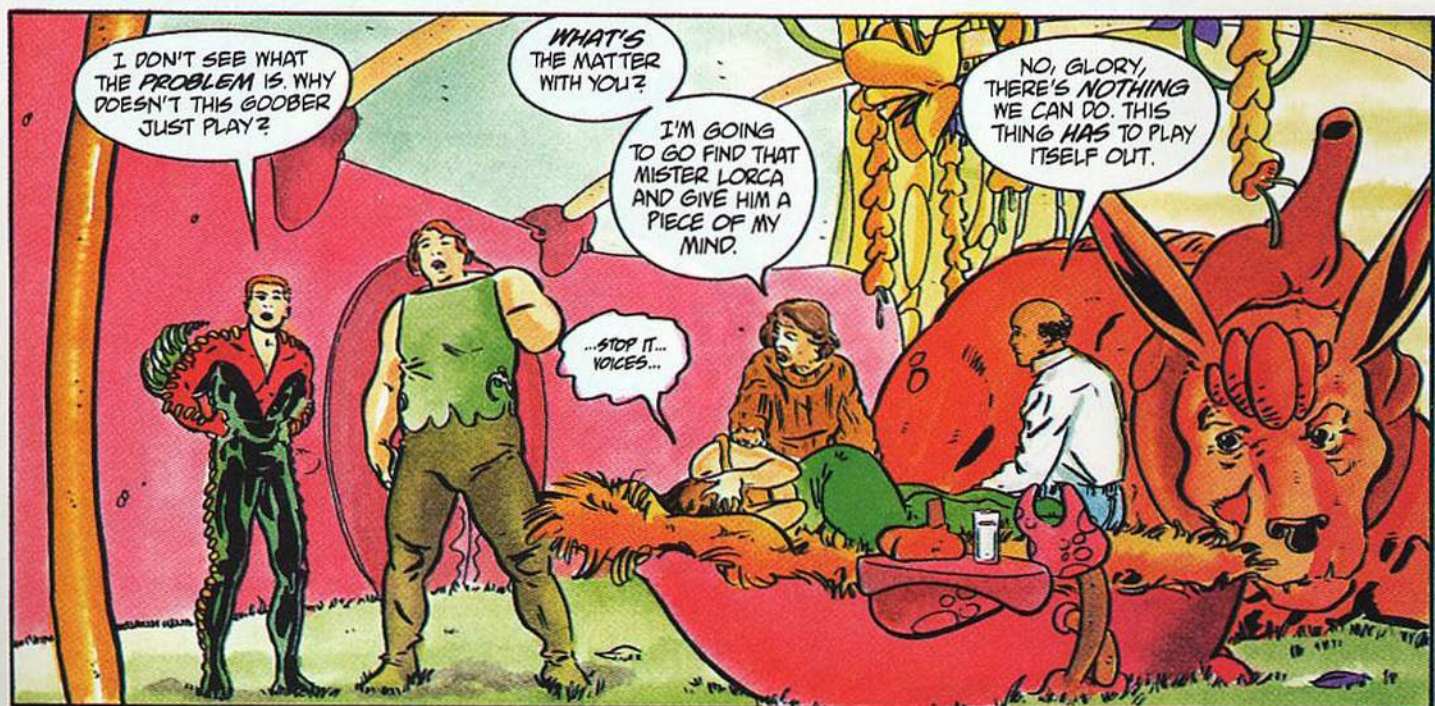
DAYS LATER...

WELCOME TO THE
SPLATTERDOME!

TODAY THE SKULLRENDERS
BATTLE THE BLOODHONEYES
FOR THE RIGHT TO BE CALLED
"ORG CHAMPION"!

BUT THE BIG
QUESTION REMAINS...
THE GREAT GRIMMAX:
WILL HE OR
WON'T HE?







WHERE IS HE?

HAVE YOU SEEN THAT MOB OUT THERE? IF GRIMMAX DOESN'T GET HIS UGLY SELF OUT THERE NOW, THEY'LL TEAR US APART!

I'M UP FOR IT.



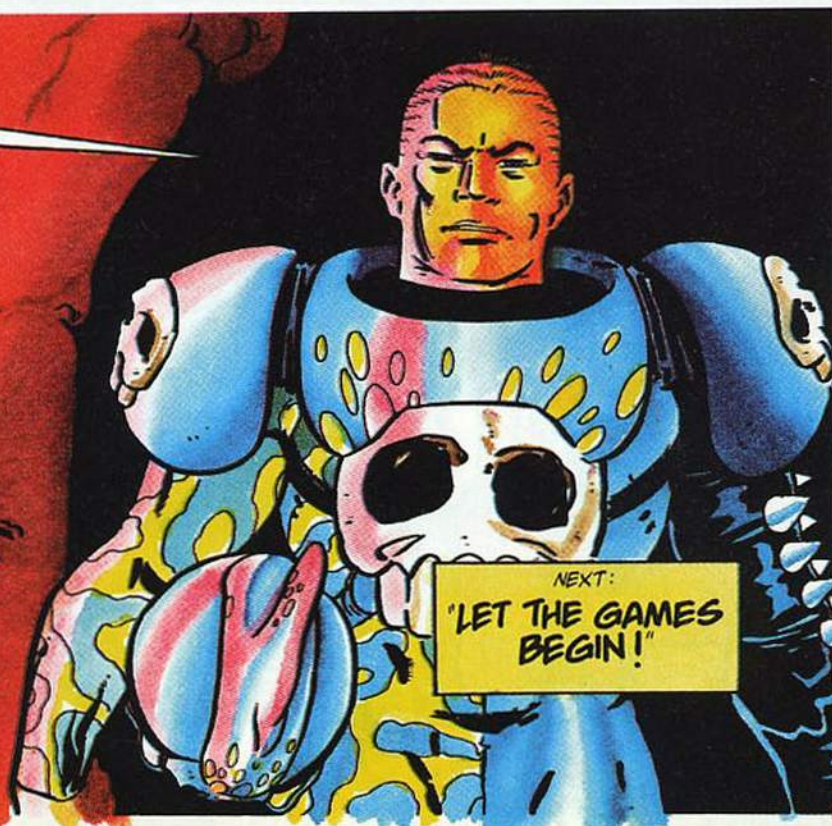
HEY, MAN. I DON'T LIKE YOU.

YOU STUPID--

ALL RIGHT, ENOUGH!

CLASSES ARE IN SESSION!

LET'S GET THIS OVER WITH.



NEXT:

"LET THE GAMES BEGIN!"